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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Delaware announced today the pre-suit settlement of claims the United States has against Beebe Medical Center and two Delaware physicians. The United States alleged that Beebe Medical Center and the two physicians violated the False Claims Act by submitting charges to federal healthcare programs at a time when the financial relationship among the hospital and the doctors precluded them from receiving reimbursement from federal programs for procedures performed by the doctors. The United States has agreed to forbear from filing suit and seeking exclusion from federal programs in exchange for a combined payment of \$1,000,000, and a commitment that ensures that any future financial relationship undertaken by any of the parties affecting federal healthcare programs will comply with federal law.

"This settlement should send a clear message that ensuring the integrity of the Medicare program and protecting beneficiaries is a top priority of Federal law enforcement agencies," said Daniel R. Levinson, Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General.

The settlement is the result of a joint investigation by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, Office of Investigations and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.